



National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

# Inside Wallops

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## ***Wallops Leader Pleased with NASA Deputy Nominee***

The NASA Wallops Flight Facility senior manager expressed his pleasure with the naming of Major General Charles F. Bolden as the nominee for the second leadership spot in the nation's space agency.

"Major General Bolden brings a wealth of experience to NASA," said Dr. John H. Campbell, Director of Suborbital and Special Orbital Programs. "His



*Major General Bolden*

knowledge of NASA and his leadership skills will prove invaluable as we begin a new era of space and aeronautics research. I was associated with Bolden during the STS-31 Shuttle mission and the deployment of the Hubble Space Telescope in 1990. I am pleased he is joining NASA again."

President George W. Bush announced last week his intention to nominate

former NASA astronaut and Assistant Deputy Administrator, Major General Charles F. Bolden, U.S. Marine Corps, as NASA's next Deputy Administrator. Bolden, 55, currently serves as the Commanding General, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing.

A veteran of four Space Shuttle flights, Bolden was pilot on STS-61C in 1986 and STS-31 in 1990, and was the mission commander on STS-45 in 1992.

That same year, he was appointed Assistant Deputy Administrator at NASA Headquarters in Washington, a position he held until 1994, when he was named commander of STS-60. He left the space program having logged more than 680 hours in orbit.

As Deputy Administrator, Bolden will serve as the chief operating officer for the agency and report directly to the Administrator. He will be responsible for directing and managing many of the programs and day-to-day operations and activities at NASA.

## ***Virginia Firm Wins \$82 Million Contract From NASA Goddard***

ManTech Systems Engineering Corporation of Fairfax, Va., has won a \$82.3 million contract to provide engineering and technician mechanical support at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC).

Goddard builds instruments and satellites that monitor the Earth's vital signs, study the Sun and its influence on our planet and peer into the deepest reaches of space for answers to fundamental questions about the origin and fate of the Universe.

The cost-plus-award-fee contract begins on May 1, 2002.

## ***HESSI Set for Launch***

NASA's High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager (HESSI) remains on track for a February 5 launch.

HESSI will study solar flares - gigantic explosions in the atmosphere of the Sun-with a unique kind of X-ray vision, producing the very first high-fidelity color movies of solar flares during their highest energy emissions.

HESSI will be carried aloft inside a Pegasus XL rocket under the belly of Orbital Science Corporation's Stargazer L-1011 aircraft. The L-1011 is scheduled to lift off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla., at 2:30 p.m. EST.

The Wallops Flight Facility is providing radar, telemetry and communications support for the mission.

The rocket will deliver HESSI to its 373-mile (600-kilometer) circular orbit above the Earth, inclined at 38 degrees to the equator.

Separation from the Pegasus rocket is scheduled to occur at 3:36 p.m. EST.

HESSI will study gigantic explosions in the atmosphere of the Sun with a unique kind of X-ray vision, and produce the first high-fidelity color movies of solar flares in their highest energy emissions.

Launch coverage from Cape Canaveral of the mission begins at 2:15 p.m. on NASA TV, Channel 6.

For more information on HESSI, visit <http://hesperia.gsfc.nasa.gov/hessi/>

## ***EUVE Spacecraft Re-Enters Earth's Atmosphere***

NASA's Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer (EUVE) re-entered the Earth's atmosphere at approximately 11:15 p.m. EST on January 30.

According to calculations made by the U.S. Space Command Space Control Center, EUVE re-entered the atmosphere over central Egypt.

"The actual location of EUVE's re-entry was within the predicted orbit track," said Scott Hull, spacecraft engineering lead for space science mission operations, at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. "We expected EUVE could come in at a number of points along the ground track."

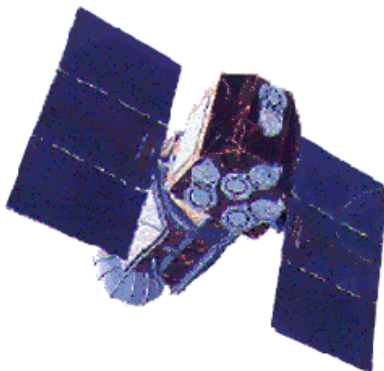
EUVE did not have an on-board propulsion system to allow engineers to control the spacecraft's re-entry.

Using U.S. Space Command data, engineers calculated EUVE's orbit track and predicted where it could re-enter the atmosphere.

EUVE was in a 28.5-degree orbit and could re-enter in any location within

this orbit range. This range included areas as far north as Orlando, Fla., and as far south as Brisbane, Australia.

The object was not designed to survive re-entry intact and was expected to break apart and mostly burn up in the atmosphere. U.S. Space Command cannot confirm if any pieces survived re-entry.



EUVE was launched on July 7, 1992. Science operations ended in December 2000.

During its eight years in orbit, EUVE was the first astrophysics mission to explore the extreme ultraviolet-and helped to bridge the gap in our understanding of this previously unknown spectrum.

EUVE observed more than 1,000 nearby sources, including more than three dozen objects outside our galaxy.

Additional background information about EUVE is available at <http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/euve/euve.html>

## January or April?

by Ted Wilz, Senior Meteorologist

After experiencing one of the mildest Januarys in recent years, the 3.6 inches of snow we received on January 3 seems a lifetime away.

January was a very mild month, overall, with the average temperatures running 6.7 degrees above normal. A new daily record high was set when the temperature reached 68 degrees on January 28, surpassing the previous record of 62 degrees. That was only the beginning. The following day the temperature reached 72 degrees, tying the record high, and then on the next day, January 30, the temperature climbed to 79 degrees, the all-time record high for the month of January at Wallops Island!

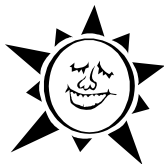
Precipitation-wise, January was not quite as remarkable at Wallops. The January 3 snow event was the only measurable snow of the month. The 3.6 inch accumulation was slightly above our January average of 2.9 inches. We had 2.85 total inches of precipitation during January and 13 days with measurable precipitation, slightly below the January norm of 3.26 inches.

Will our "early spring" continue into March? Not likely! March can be one of the windiest periods of the year along the Eastern Shore, with brisk northwesterly winds often bringing some late winter blasts of cold air through the region as well as the notorious "Nor'easter" storms sometimes providing some downright nasty and often damaging conditions along the coast.

High temperatures in March usually start out around 50 degrees, but by month's end average near 60 degrees. Not quite the 79 degree reading we had on January 30 but quite livable. Low temperatures average in the low to mid 30's at the beginning of the month, but increase to around 40 degrees as April approaches. The record high for March is 86 degrees, set on March 13, 1990, and the all-time low for the month is 14 degrees, set on March 4, 1996.

Spring arrives in late March. Between showers and the last spring showers and the vestiges of winter storms, the average monthly precipitation increases to 3.93 inches, making March our wettest month of the year. March usually has 10 days with measurable precipitation, but fortunately, less than 1 inch (.9) of annual snowfall.

While the balmy weather at the end of January may seem like the prelude to the end of winter, it most likely is not the case. As the winter storm and "Nor'easter" threat diminishes, the tropical storm season, which begins on April 1, looms on the horizon.



## Wallops Shorts.....

A team from Wallops is currently at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. preparing for the launch of a Terrier-Black Brant sounding rocket. The launch is currently scheduled for February 8.

Another team of Wallops personnel departed for Poker Flat Research Range, (PFRR) Alaska, today, February 4, to conduct launch operations for a Black Brant V and three Taurus-Orions. The science window extends from February 8 - 20. They will be joining another team currently at PFRR conducting launch operations for a Black Brant XII and an Orion. This science window opened February 2 and runs through February 24.



PAO Digital Picture

**Wallops electronic sign registered a record high!**

## February is Black History Month

Originally established as Negro History Week in 1926 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, (1875-1950), a noted African-American author and scholar, this event evolved into the establishment in 1976 of February as "Black History Month." This commemoration has increasingly been referred to as "African-American History Month," although both names are currently in use.

The theme for Black History Month 2002 is: The Color Line Revisited: Is Racism Dead?

## For Sale

1995 Buick Park Avenue, good condition, new tires, 70,000 miles. \$8,500. Call (757) 787-7290 for details.

## For Sale

Full set of CB Drums. Two years old. In good condition. \$300. Call (757) 336-5579 after 5 p.m.

**Editor's Note:** NASA has set up a new web site to publish satellite images in near real time of natural hazards that are occurring around the world.

The web address was obmitted in the January 28 newsletter  
<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/>

Thanks to Donna Galeone, Northrup-Grumman, for noticing the error.

## Upcoming Training

### High Pressure System Safety

February 20-21

For information call Dwayne Rye, x1884 or visit:

<http://www.wff.nasa.gov/~code803/pdf/Highpressure02.pdf>

### Microsoft Excel

February 21-22

8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To register contact Sherry Tharpe on x66-6533 or Kara Zaimis on x66-5378.

### Flex Hose Safety

February 22

For information contact Dwayne Rye on x1884 or visit:

<http://www.wff.nasa.gov/~code803/pdf/flexhose02.pdf>

### Microsoft PowerPoint

February 28 - March 1

8:30a.m. - 4 p.m.

To register contact Sherry Tharpe on x66-6533 or Kara Zaimis, x66-5378.

## WEMA presents a Craft And Goodies Show

February 13

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Building E-2 Conference Room

Partial listing of items for sale

Handmade candles, wood birdhouses, wood and ceramic hearts, shamrock and bunny pins wood hanging bunnies and yard signs.

Sell your old jewelry and used media

Used media includes cassette, game and video tapes, CD's, advertising collectibles, books, jewelry, magazines, matchbooks, photographs, post cards, posters, signs, etc.



E-mail Terry Ewell, (Terry.Ann.Ewell.1@gsfc.nasa.gov), to reserve a table.

## Lunch N Learn

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will present a Lunch N Learn on February 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Williamsburg Room, Building E-2.

Linda Zeman of Bon Secours, EAP, will offer some simple, but effective, short-term counseling techniques that you might use in everyday situations that may help your friends, colleagues or family members.

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